

Application No.: 09/864,031

2

Docket No.: 65937-0003

an outer cannula supported at a proximal end by said cannula hub and defining a tissue-receiving opening adjacent a distal end thereof, and a lumen between said proximal and distal ends in fluid communication with said fluid port of said cannula hub; and

an inner cutting member slidably disposed within said lumen of said outer cannula and defining a cutting edge at a distal end thereof operable to sever tissue projecting through said tissue-receiving opening.

2. (Original) The tissue cutting device of claim 1, further comprising a fluid source connected to said opposite end of said tube, said fluid source including:

a container holding a supply of a fluid; and

a valve between said container and said fluid port and operable to control the flow of fluid from said container through said tube.

3. (Original) The tissue cutting device of claim 2, wherein said valve is a pinch valve engaged about said tube.

5 10. (Previously Added) The tissue cutting device of claim 1, wherein said cannula hub is detachably mounted to said handpiece.

6 11. (Previously Added) The tissue cutting device of claim 1, wherein said cannula hub and said outer cannula are detachable from said handpiece and said inner cutting member.

7 12. (Previously added) The tissue cutting device of claim 1, wherein said handpiece includes a Luer fitting at a distal end thereof that is configured to mate with said cannula hub.

4 13. (Previously Added) The tissue cutting device of claim 2, wherein said valve is opened when said inner cutting member begins to retract from said tissue-receiving opening and is closed before said inner cutting member advances forward to sever tissue projecting through said tissue-receiving opening.

Application No.: 09/864,031

3

Docket No.: 65937-0003

8 14. (Currently Amended) A tissue cutting device comprising:

an elongated handpiece;

a cannula hub detachably mounted to said handpiece and having a fluid[delivery]port;

a tube connected at one end to said fluid port and having an opposite end connectable to a fluid source;

an outer cannula supported at a proximal end by said cannula hub and defining a tissue-receiving opening adjacent a distal end thereof, and a lumen between said proximal and distal ends in fluid communication with said fluid port of said cannula hub; and

an inner cutting member moveably attached to said handpiece and slidably disposed within said lumen of said outer cannula, said inner cutting member defining a cutting edge at [said]a distal end thereof operable to sever tissue projecting through said tissue-receiving opening[.], and wherein said inner cutting member is attached to said handpiece when said cannula hub is detached from said handpiece.

9 15. (Currently Amended) A tissue cutting device comprising:

an elongated handpiece;

a cannula hub mounted to said handpiece and having a fluid port;

a tube connected at one end to said fluid port and having an opposite end connectable to a fluid source;

an outer cannula supported at a proximal end by said cannula hub and defining a tissue-receiving opening adjacent a distal end thereof, and a lumen between said proximal and distal ends in fluid communication with said fluid port of said cannula hub, said lumen including a cutting board therein proximate said distal end of said outer cannula; and

an inner cutting member slidably disposed within said lumen of said outer cannula and defining a cutting edge at [said]a distal end thereof that is engagable with said cutting board to

Application No.: 09/864,031

4

Docket No.: 65937-0003

sever tissue projecting through said tissue-receiving opening.

10/16. (Previously added) The tissue cutting device of claim 1⁹, wherein said cutting board is made from a material having a hardness less than a hardness of said inner cutting member at said cutting edge, but sufficient to substantially prevent deformation of said cutting board under pressure from said cutting edge engagement.